



IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Applicant:

MCCARTHY et al.

Conf.:

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Appl. No.:

09/673,739

Group:

1656 TECH CENTER 1600/290(

Filed:

October 20, 2000

Examiner: J. Tung

For:

A METHOD FOR THE CHARACTERIZATION OF NUCLEIC ACID MOLECULES INVOLVING GENERATION OF EXTENDIBLE UPSTREAM DNA FRAGMENTS RESULTING FROM THE CLEAVAGE OF

NUCLEIC ACID AT AN ABASIC SITE

RESPONSE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

December 10, 2002

Sir:

The following remarks are respectfully submitted in response to the Office Action dated February 8, 2002, and Advisory Action issued July 30, 2002, the due date having been reset with the filing of the Notice of Appeal on August 29, 2002 and extended for two (2) months to December 29, 2002, in connection with the above-jdentified application.

REMARKS

Rejections for double-patenting and for obviousness under 35 U.S.C.

<u>\$103</u>

1) Claims 1-5, 8, 10-12, 14-16 and 20-23 remain rejected under

the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double 12/11/2002 SSESHE1 00000126 09673739

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